

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Investigation into
Implementation of Assembly Bill 970 Regarding
the Identification of Electric Transmission and
Distribution Constraints, Actions to Resolve
Those Constraints, and Related Matters Affecting
the Reliability of Electric Supply.

Investigation 00-11-001
(Filed November 2, 2000)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE REGARDING
TEHACHAPI TRANSMISSION EXPANSION PLAN**

A prehearing conference (PHC) will be held at 10:30 a.m. on August 5, 2004, to obtain a status report and discuss activities of the study group created by Decision 04-06-010 to develop a comprehensive transmission development plan for the phased expansion of transmission capabilities in the Tehachapi area.

A study plan dated July 14, 2004 was distributed electronically to parties in this proceeding. If you did not receive a copy, please contact Brian Schumacher at BDS@cpuc.ca.gov or 415 703-1226. I understand that the plan incorporated parties' comments on an earlier draft study plan. However, I am interested in determining whether parties are satisfied with the July 14, 2004 study plan. In addition, I have several questions based on my review of the plan. As a general comment, the schedule attached to the study plan seems to emphasize the technical assessment of various project alternatives with little reference to other

aspects of the study group's tasks. Among other matters, parties should be prepared to address the following matters at the PHC:

- How are potential interconnections between the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison Company (SCE) transmission systems being identified and assessed?
- How are non-technical issues raised by D.04-06-010 being addressed, e.g., procedures whereby a CPCN filing and later construction of each phase of the upgrades would be triggered, application of the Tehachapi approach to other areas of the State, and demarcation between gen-ties and network transmission facilities?
- How are network benefits being assessed?
- Are there enough scheduled meetings and other opportunities for study group members to coordinate and collaborate?
- How will non-consensus views be drafted and incorporated in the study group report?
- What transmission project is SCE planning to propose in its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity application due December 9, 2004?
- Should the July 14, 2004 Study Plan be modified in any respect?

Parties may file PHC statements addressing these or other issues no later than August 2, 2004. While parties' PHC statements must be filed with the Docket Office in paper form, they may be served on the service list in electronic form, pursuant to Rule 2.3(b) in the Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure. Paper format copies, in addition to electronic copies if made available, should be served on the Assigned Commissioner and the assigned Administrative Law Judge, anyone on the Appearance and State Service portions of the service list

who does not have a valid e-mail address, and any other party requesting paper format copy. If a party serves its PHC statement electronically, it should e-mail courtesy copies to the entire service list, including those appearing on the list as "Information Only." Parties filing PHC statements should bring 15 extra copies to the PHC. Parties are encouraged to meet and confer prior to the PHC and to file joint statements to the extent feasible.

Parties were given advance electronic notice of this ruling.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that:

1. The Commission shall hold a prehearing conference (PHC) at 10:30 a.m. on August 5, 2004, in the Commission Courtroom, State Office Building, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California.

2. Parties may file PHC statements, as more fully set forth above, no later than August 2, 2004. Parties shall serve these statements on the service list, as well as on the Assigned Commissioner and assigned Administrative Law Judge, and shall bring 15 extra copies of their PHC statements to the PHC.

Dated July 22, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CHARLOTTE F. TERKEURST

Charlotte F. TerKeurst
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Setting Prehearing Conference Regarding Tehachapi Transmission Expansion Plan on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated July 22, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELIZABETH LEWIS

Elizabeth Lewis

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at

I.00-11-001 CFT/hl2

(415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.